

**CLAIMS**

5 We claim:

1. A method for providing video data, comprising:

receiving video data in a variable bit rate data stream at a video source;

transcoding said video data into a constant bit rate data stream between said video  
10 source and a video destination, wherein said constant bit rate data stream has a data rate  
exceeding a minimum display rate;

receiving said video data in said constant bit rate stream at said video destination;

delaying display of said video data at said video destination by a delay period;

transcoding said video data into a variable bit rate stream for variable bit rate  
15 display processing to generate a display at said video destination, said variable bit rate  
display processing varying between said minimum display rate and a maximum display  
rate; and

storing excess received video data in at least one buffer within said video  
destination.

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2. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining said delay period is determined  
responsive to whether said video data represents a live event.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving at least one retransmitted video data message at said video destination;

determining a location in said at least one buffer where a corresponding previous

5 video data message belonged; and

writing said at least one retransmitted video data message into said at least one  
buffer at said determined location.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

10 receiving a fast forward user command at said video destination; and

increasing said display rate responsive to said received fast forward user  
command.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said video destination includes a personal video

15 recorder device, wherein said personal video recorder includes a hard disc storage  
component, and wherein said at least one buffer is defined within said hard disc storage  
component.

6. A system for providing video data, comprising:

20 video source equipment operable to receive video data in a variable bit rate data  
stream and to transcode said video data into a constant bit rate data stream between said

video source equipment and video destination equipment, wherein said constant bit rate data stream has a data rate exceeding a minimum display rate; and

wherein said video destination equipment is operable to receive said video data in said constant bit rate stream, to delay display of said video data at said video destination  
5 by a delay period, to transcode said video data into a variable bit rate stream for variable bit rate display processing to generate a display at said video destination, said variable bit rate display processing varying between said minimum display rate and a maximum display rate, and to store excess received video data in at least one buffer within said video destination.

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7. The system of claim 6, wherein said video destination equipment is further operable to determine said delay period is determined responsive to whether said video data represents a live event.

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8. The system of claim 6, wherein said video destination equipment is further operable to receive at least one retransmitted video data message at said video destination, to determine a location in said at least one buffer where a corresponding previous video data message belonged, and to write said at least one retransmitted video data message into said at least one buffer at said determined location.

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9. The system of claim 6, wherein said video destination equipment is further operable to receive a fast forward user command at said video destination, and to increase said display rate responsive to said received fast forward user command.

5 10. The system of claim 6, wherein said video destination includes a personal video recorder device, wherein said personal video recorder includes a hard disc storage component, and wherein said at least one buffer is defined within said hard disc storage component.

10 11. A system for providing video data, comprising:

means for receiving video data in a variable bit rate data stream at a video source;

means for transcoding said video data into a constant bit rate data stream between said video source and a video destination, wherein said constant bit rate data stream has a data rate exceeding a minimum display rate;

15 means for receiving said video data in said constant bit rate stream at said video destination;

means for delaying display of said video data at said video destination by a delay period;

means for transcoding said video data into a variable bit rate stream for variable bit rate display processing to generate a display at said video destination, said variable bit rate display processing varying between said minimum display rate and a maximum display rate; and

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means for storing excess received video data in at least one buffer within said  
video destination.